

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A burner head having a fuel inlet and a firing portion through which fuel flows to be burnt, wherein the firing portion comprises a plurality of apertures each having an inlet side and an outlet side, one of the inlet and outlet sides being relatively narrower and the other of the inlet and outlet sides being relatively wider with respect to each other, the plurality of apertures being defined by a plurality of spaced apart elongate elements formed of wire with elongate fuel flow passages therebetween, and wherein the wire is wedge wire having a generally triangular cross section.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein the wedge wire having a generally triangular cross section is oriented such that the fuel flow passages broaden out as the fuel flows through them to be burnt.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein the wedge wire having a generally triangular cross section is oriented such that the fuel flow passages narrow inwardly as the fuel flows through them to be burnt.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein the firing portion is generally tubular and formed of spirally wound wire secured to support members running axially of the tube.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein the firing portion is generally tubular and formed of rings of wire secured to support members running axially of the tube.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein the firing portion is generally tubular and formed of straight pieces of wire aligned axially and secured to generally circular support members running around the tube.

Claim 8 (Original) A burner head according to claim 5 wherein the support members are located within the tube.

Claim 9 (Original) A burner head according to claim 6 wherein the support members are located on the outside of the tube.

Claim 10 (Original) A burner head according to claim 5 wherein the tube is substantially parallel sided.

Claim 11 (Original) A burner head according to claim 6 wherein the tube tapers along part or all of its length.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein the firing portion is generally planar and formed of straight pieces of wire aligned in a first direction and secured to generally straight support members aligned in a second direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein the firing portion is reduced in area by masking selected fuel passages or selected lengths of the fuel passages.

Claim 14 (Original) A burner head according to claim 13 wherein the masking is undertaken using a ceramic material.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) A burner head according to claim 1 wherein it includes a plurality of firing portions.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) A burner including a burner head according to claim 1.